There is no material available to infer that MFA has sought to prop up Chinese exports much higher than those of India before imposing quotas on them.

Inadequate power supply affecting powerloom weavers

2925. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether inadequate power supply is affecting the powerloom weavers adversely; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to support the powerloom weavers by better infrastructure and power supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Lack of adequate power supply is one of the factors affecting the productivity of the powerloom sector.

(b) The Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS), devised to improve infrastructural facilities at potential textile growth centers in order to remove bottlenecks in exports, has been modified to *inter-alia* cover new/emerging centers including powerloom clusters. Such Centres/clusters can utilise assistance under the scheme for strengthening infrastructure including power supply.

US move in WTO to block Indian textile exports

2926. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US has moved the WTO to block Indian textile exports;

(b) if so, whether the Washington have claimed that the products have attained export competitiveness and should be ineligible for concessions under the World Trade Organisation Agreement;

(c) whether India's eight-year transition period for gaining export competitiveness and removing all subsidies is due to end in 2003;